research of scientists is being suppressed nor is he being harassed.

(b) In the past three years no scientist of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has committed suicide. It is also clarified that in a few cases of suicides many years ago frustration could not be established as a cause.

(c) Significant research contributions by scientists, *inter alia*, form an important criterion for merit promotion/selection to higher posts. In addition a number of awards have also been instituted for giving recognition to good research by scientists. recognition to good research by scientists.

सरसों का तेल

5050. **श्री दिग्विजय सिंह** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में सरसों के तेल की मिलों को बड़े पैमाने पर बंद किया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और अब तक बंद की गई तेल मिलों की राज्य-वार संख्या कितनी है;

(ग) क्या आयल मिल/एसोसिएशन ने इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा किसी प्रकार के तुरन्त हस्तक्षेप किए जाने/सहायता दिए जाने की मांग की है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस एसोसिएशन द्वारा की गई मांगों का ब्यौरा क्या है और उनकी मांग/मांगों पर सरकार द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिए जाने की संभावना है और यह निर्णय कब तक लिया जाएगा ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस. कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) से (घ) प्रश्न की विषय वस्तु नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले तथा सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय से संबंधित है जिन्होंने सूचित किया है कि तेल मिल मालिकों के एसोसिएशन से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं जिन्होंने वनस्पति के निर्माण में एक्सपेलर सरसों के तेल के प्रयोग की अनुमति देने का अनुरोध किया है । ऐसे अभ्यावेदनों की जांच देश में खाद्य तेल की समग्र मांग और आपूर्ति की स्थिति के संदर्भ में की जाती है । खाद्य तेलों की प्रचलित कीमतों को देखते हुए, सरकार द्वारा अभ्यावेदनों पर अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है । खाद्य तेल उद्योग को लाइसेंस मुक्त किए जाने से नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले तथा सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय द्वारा मिलों की संख्या, उनकी उपयोग की क्षमता, राज्यवार एककों को बंद किए जाने आदि के बारे में ब्यौरे संकलित नहीं किए जा रहे हैं ।

Relief for Flood and Drought affected people in U.P.

5051. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that U.P. Government's request for relief for the population affected by floods and drought in 1993 is still pending with the Central Government, if so, what is the amount requested for and the amount given so far out of that ;

(b) what are the recommendations of the Central team which toured the State in September-October, 1993 and what steps Government have taken thereon ; and

(c) whether an amount of **Rs. 21.50** lakh as *ex-gratia* payment to the next of kin of those who have died in natural calamities is also held up, if so, the reasons therefor and by when these funds will be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted a memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 414.34 crores for providing relief in the areas affected by drought and flood during 1993.

Under the existing scheme for financing relief expenditure, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State, with Central and State Government's contribution in the ratio of 3 : 1 A State

level Committee headed by Chief Secretary is fully empowered to decide on all matters relating to operation of CRF, including execution of relief operations, norms and scale of assistance. With the constitution of CRF, it is the responsibility of the State Government concerned to meet all expenditure on relief operations in the wake of natural calamities.

The request of the State Government was considered in the light of existing scheme for financing the relief expenditure. A Central team visited the State between September 29 and October 2, 1993 to assess the situation. Based on the recommendations of the Central team and of an Inter-Ministrial Group, Government of India released the first quarterly instalment of Central share of CRF for the year 1994-95 amounting to Rs. 13.32 crore in advance in February, 1994.

(c) The item-wise allocations for relief operations including ex-gratia payments, out of the corpus of CRF, is made by the State Government concerned.

Starvation deaths of Tribals in Kerala

5052. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports about the starvation deaths of over forty (40) tribals in Noolpuzha Panchayat of Wayanad district of Kerala during December 1993, January, 1994 ;

(b) if so, whether any Central team was sent or independent investigations were otherwise caused by the Central Government to ascertain the facts or assess the situation in the area, if so, the details thereof and the findings thereof ; and

(c) whether reports of starvation deaths were also received from other parts of the country as well during the past one year, if so, the details thereof and the Central Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Accordng to information received from Government of Kerala, reports of starvation deaths among tribals in Noolpuzha Panchayat of Wayanad district were unfounded.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Product and Non-Product specific aggregate measurement of support on agricultural products

5053. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the product specific Aggregate Measurement of Support on 17 agricultural products and their value at applied administered prices ;

(b) what is the actual production of 17 crops and their eligible production which has been taken;

(c) what is the non-product specific aggregate measurement of support on fertilizers, electricity, agricultural machinery, insecticides, weedicides, diesel, lubricants etc. ;

(d) the items which bear negative non-product specific aggregate measurement of support and in what quantity and what are the details thereof ; and

(e) what measures Government will take to rectify this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The product specific and non-product specific aggregate measurement of support (AMS) of the base period 1986-88 was required to be calculated for the purposes of Uruguay round of negotiations. The requisite information in respect of the base period is contained in the schedule of commitments to the GATT, copy of which is available in the Parliament Library. This ministry has not made any calculation of AMS beyond the base period.

(d) The non-product aggregate measurement of support is not negative.

(e) Does not arise.